

Mineral Industry Surveys

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SILICON IN JULY 2003

In July 2003, domestic production of silicon ferroalloys plus metal, excluding silvery pig iron, was estimated to have decreased by about 1% compared with that of the previous month, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Domestic shipments decreased by 13% while producer stocks increased by 4% compared with those for June 2003. All domestic data for ferrosilicon have been combined to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

The June 2003 trade data included in this report indicated that silicon metal imports decreased by 56% on a gross weight basis compared with those of May 2003. Ferrosilicon imports, on a gross weight basis, increased by 8% compared with those of May, owing primarily to a significant increase in the trade category "ferrosilicon, 55% - 80% silicon, other." On a gross weight basis, ferrosilicon exports decreased by 24% compared with those of May, with significant decreases in the trade category "ferrosilicon, more than 55%." Silicon metal exports increased by 28% compared with those in May, owing to a significant increase in the trade category "silicon metal, other."

Update

On August 18, the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) determined for the third time that U.S. ferrosilicon producers were not materially injured by imports of ferrosilicon

from Brazil, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, and Venezuela (U.S. International Trade Commission, 2003§¹). The negative determination was made in response to the second remand issued by the U.S. Court of International Trade (CIT) on the matter on June 18, 2003. The second remand required the ITC to provide additional evidence supporting the negative determination it made in September 2002 (Elkem Metals Co. v. United States, No. 99-10-00628, CIT Slip Opinion 2003-66). The ITC planned to send its decision and rationale back to the CIT by September 16 (Ryan's Notes, 2003).

¹A reference that includes a section mark (§) is found in the Internet Reference Cited section.

Reference Cited

Ryan's Notes, 2003, Samancor to lose 12,000-14,000 mt of SiMn—US FeSi producers' setback: Ryan's Notes, v. 9, no. 34, August 25, p. 1.

Internet Reference Cited

U.S. International Trade Commission, 2003 (August 18), ITC makes determination in second remand concerning ferrosilicon from Brazil, China, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine, and Venezuela—News Release 03-083, accessed September 22, 2003, at URL <http://www.usitc.gov>.

Prices, cents per pound, silicon content

	<u>50% Ferrosilicon¹</u>	<u>75% Ferrosilicon²</u>	<u>Silicon Metal²</u>
July 3	46.0-50.0	45.0-47.0	60.0-62.0
July 10	46.0-50.0	45.0-47.0	58.0-61.0
July 17	46.0-48.0	45.0-47.0	59.0-61.0
July 24	46.0-48.0	45.0-47.0	59.0-61.0
July 31	46.0-48.0	45.0-47.0	60.0-61.0

¹Source: Ryan's Notes, North American transaction price.

²Source: Platts Metals Week, dealer import price.

TABLE 1
U.S. PRODUCTION, SHIPMENTS, AND PRODUCER STOCKS OF SILICON ALLOYS AND METAL IN 2003^{1, 2, 3}

(Metric tons)

Material	Gross production ⁴		Net shipments		Stocks, July 31
	July	Year to date ⁵	July	Year to date ⁵	
Ferrosilicon:					
All grades ^{6, 7}	15,500	122,000	11,500	99,200	30,500
Silicon metal:					
Excludes semiconductor grades	11,200	77,100	10,200	71,200	5,090

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

²Includes U.S. Geological Survey estimates.

³Data for silvery pig iron (less than 25% silicon) withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

⁴Includes in-plant consumption, as in production of magnesium ferrosilicon and other miscellaneous alloys.

⁵Includes revisions to previous months' data.

⁶Ferrosilicon categories were aggregated to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

⁷Includes miscellaneous silicon alloys.

TABLE 2
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2003^{1, 2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
More than 55% silicon:						
Canada	187	112	\$141,000	2,090	1,250	\$1,690,000
Malaysia	5	4	9,120	22	17	36,500
Mexico	66	40	65,400	681	417	737,000
Total	259	156	216,000	2,790	1,690	2,460,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Australia	--	--	--	19	10	25,300
Brazil	--	--	--	100	45	128,000
Canada	347	174	272,000	1,580	791	1,270,000
France	12	6	10,000	18	9	15,000
Germany	9	3	11,700	9	3	11,700
Italy	--	--	--	32	17	52,600
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	478	239	508,000
Mexico	80	40	69,400	822	411	748,000
Spain	--	--	--	4	2	3,240
Taiwan	--	--	--	1	1	6,190
Total	448	222	363,000	3,060	1,530	2,770,000
Total ferrosilicon	707	378	579,000	5,860	3,210	5,230,000
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
China	92	XX	2,530,000	491	XX	14,500,000
France	13	XX	314,000	64	XX	1,540,000
Germany	63	XX	1,870,000	353	XX	11,600,000
Japan	262	XX	11,400,000	2,060	XX	92,400,000
Korea, Republic of	62	XX	2,290,000	358	XX	13,100,000
Malaysia	6	XX	981,000	35	XX	6,070,000
Norway	54	XX	1,430,000	486	XX	12,200,000
Taiwan	10	XX	343,000	87	XX	3,010,000
Ukraine	(3)	XX	20,300	40	XX	1,120,000
United Kingdom	21	XX	1,560,000	121	XX	10,200,000
Other (36 countries)	22	XX	1,440,000	192	XX	12,500,000
Total	605	605 ^c	24,200,000	4,290	4,290 ^c	178,000,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2--Continued
U.S. EXPORTS OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2003^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal--Continued:						
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Belgium	--	--	--	4	4	\$5,180
Brazil	76	75	\$147,000	178	176	374,000
Colombia	--	--	--	39	39	55,100
Denmark	--	--	--	7	7	9,270
Jamaica	--	--	--	9	9	15,300
Japan	--	--	--	13	13	31,900
Mexico	1	1	2,660	61	60	90,900
Norway	6	6	13,200	246	244	352,000
Singapore	--	--	--	7	7	9,020
Venezuela	--	--	--	39	38	56,200
Other (7 countries)	--	--	--	16	16	43,600
Total	83	82	163,000	618	612	1,040,000
Other silicon:						
Canada	203	197	264,000	2,020	1,960	2,150,000
China	--	--	--	42	41	55,200
Germany	6	6	8,000	42	41	55,500
Hong Kong	--	--	--	27	26	110,000
Japan	47	46	61,900	773	750	1,190,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	188	182	248,000
Mexico	54	53	152,000	120	117	428,000
Netherlands	161	156	358,000	392	376	2,000,000
Taiwan	42	41	64,000	46	45	82,600
United Kingdom	169	164	217,000	362	351	420,000
Other (15 countries)	16	16	21,700	77	75	189,000
Total	698	678	1,150,000	4,090	3,970	6,930,000
Total silicon metal	1,390	1,370	25,500,000	8,990	8,870	186,000,000

⁶Estimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Presentation of monthly data is based on the year-to-date quantities (gross weight) of the top 10 countries.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 3
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2003^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Ferrosilicon:						
55% - 80% silicon, over 3% Ca:						
Argentina	33	20	\$46,900	618	303	\$583,000
Brazil	120	78	88,000	740	560	571,000
Canada	--	--	--	41	30	16,400
China	--	--	--	19	3	14,200
France	--	--	--	54	32	72,700
Mexico	2	2	7,390	13	9	48,000
Total	154	100	142,000	1,490	938	1,310,000
55% - 80% silicon, Other:						
Brazil	988	770	626,000	5,340	4,090	3,050,000
Canada	2,260	1,700	1,590,000	7,730	5,820	5,160,000
China	341	256	210,000	15,300	11,500	8,010,000
Iceland	6,530	4,900	3,910,000	6,530	4,900	3,910,000
Kazakhstan	4,030	3,070	3,070,000	17,600	13,500	12,400,000
Norway	518	383	565,000	2,880	2,130	3,490,000
Russia	4,760	3,210	2,630,000	6,970	4,800	3,790,000
South Africa	--	--	--	2,440	1,850	1,340,000
Ukraine	1,970	1,480	1,210,000	6,260	4,720	3,670,000
Venezuela	3,270	2,520	2,250,000	19,300	16,600 ³	13,100,000
Other (5 countries)	318	223	638,000	2,920	2,040	4,410,000
Total	25,000	18,500	16,700,000	93,200	71,900	62,300,000
80% - 90% silicon:						
Canada	19	15	9,370	38	30	16,800
South Africa	--	--	--	9	7	3,350
Total	19	15	9,370	47	38	20,100
Magnesium ferrosilicon:						
Argentina	100	45	65,400	1,090	491	750,000
Brazil	503	236	295,000	2,690	1,200	1,640,000
Canada	400	189	291,000	1,620	771	1,350,000
China	428	193	284,000	2,580	1,150	1,730,000
France	40	11	44,400	80	29	90,500
Germany	--	--	--	8	4	11,500
Japan	147	67	140,000	306	140	357,000
Norway	1,470	680	1,150,000	7,580	3,480	6,120,000
Total	3,090	1,420	2,270,000	16,000	7,270	12,000,000
Other ferrosilicon:						
Brazil	41	19	23,200	315	158	182,000
Canada	499	132	256,000	3,800	1,260	2,370,000
China	20	7	20,600	79	35	78,800
France	--	--	--	22	12	50,600
Russia	--	--	--	1,160	939	593,000
Total	560	158	300,000	5,380	2,410	3,270,000
Total ferrosilicon	28,800	20,200	19,400,000	116,000	82,600	78,900,000

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 3--Continued
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF FERROSILICON AND SILICON METAL IN JUNE 2003^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

Country	Gross weight	Contained weight	Value	Year to date		
				Gross weight	Contained weight	Value
Metal:						
More than 99.99% silicon:						
Belgium	--	XX	--	12	XX	\$48,000
China	(4)	XX	\$8,770	35	XX	390,000
Finland	--	XX	--	9	XX	29,100
Germany	28	XX	5,270,000	168	XX	21,700,000
India	--	XX	--	14	XX	18,900
Italy	12	XX	860,000	177	XX	8,100,000
Japan	40	XX	1,170,000	228	XX	6,680,000
Korea, Republic of	7	XX	20,800	68	XX	494,000
Poland	--	XX	--	4	XX	17,300
Spain	--	XX	--	4	XX	17,400
Other (6 countries)	2	XX	131,000	6	XX	664,000
Total	89	89 ^e	7,460,000	725	725 ^e	38,100,000
99.00% - 99.99% silicon:						
Argentina	40	40	37,800	160	159	153,000
Australia	342	340	364,000	3,150	2,880 ³	3,330,000
Brazil	3,130	3,110	3,550,000	28,000	27,800	33,200,000
Canada	806	800	947,000	7,090	7,020	8,420,000
China	--	--	--	265	263	237,000
Kazakhstan	--	--	--	420	416	422,000
Korea, Republic of	--	--	--	120	119	96,000
Malaysia	--	--	--	300	297	309,000
Norway	580	577	1,070,000	3,750	3,610	6,450,000
South Africa	616	612	698,000	15,000	14,800	16,900,000
Other (7 countries)	53	52	89,300	173	146	331,000
Total	5,570	5,530	6,760,000	58,400	57,600	69,900,000
Other silicon:						
Brazil	--	--	--	585	576	593,000
Canada	287	281	353,000	1,170	1,140	1,010,000
China	--	--	--	2,440	2,400	2,160,000
Germany	--	--	--	163	160	161,000
Kazakhstan	--	--	--	240	233	190,000
Norway	--	--	--	1,100	1,080	1,110,000
South Africa	41	40	39,600	4,620	4,540	4,430,000
Ukraine	85	84	77,900	595	585	558,000
United Arab Emirates	--	--	--	319	314	264,000
United Kingdom	--	--	--	561	546	592,000
Other (9 countries)	43	27	43,600	591	445	658,000
Total	456	432	514,000	12,400	12,000	11,700,000
Total silicon metal	6,110	6,050	14,700,000	71,500	70,300	120,000,000

^eEstimated. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

¹Presentation of monthly data is based on the year-to-date quantities (gross weight) of the top 10 countries.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³All or part of these data have been referred to the U.S. Census Bureau for verification.

⁴Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.